Cover sheet for excerpt

Middle America wars with self-styled revolutionaries around and on an egregious Hamburger, centerpiece of a pseudo Pennsylvania Dutch restaurant. Mac and Diane, described as tourists, or, unfairly, "America's lowlife on the move," encounter the Professor and Porkpie, tutor and intimate pupil, who proceed to savage them and everything American.

Diane's life is further complicated by Mac's being in the initial stage of a disease which eventually turns men to stone.

All this is witnessed by the Cook and Waiter, who take the Dutch motif to absurd lengths, and communicate by walkie talkies prone to screeching feedback.

A late arrival is the Hunter, a violent stereotype, who vows to force civility.

The Professor has vaguely promised a "happening," and it arrives in the person of a burning girl, sacrificing herself for his cultist baloney.

A Policeman restores order, but not before an equally horrendous event, and the Professor expounding on the first horror to a TV film crew.

It's a comedy, honest.

In the 2d Act we have a reunion, to check on those who witnessed the trauma. We find that those present have gained maturity, and have used that bizarre day as a springboard to higher education, all having achieved the doctoral level.

They discuss the old events while drinking Margaritas, and point to future exploitation of the commercial possibilities: ceramic statue of the burning girl etc.

Targets include education and international capitalism, but not in a propagandistic way. This kind of comedy underlines and undermines everything, often itself.